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2011

PRESIDENT Eric D'Eramo ENCON 1265 Woodend Road Stratford, CT 06010 (203) 375-5228

PRESIDENT ELECT Seamus Warakomski Tri City Heating & Cooling 362 New Haven Avenue Milford, CT 06460 (203) 874-5228

VICE PRESIDENT Vacancy

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DIRECTORS

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Jim Chard F.J. Chard & Son (860) 675-8076

Gary Corliss Control Aire Supply (800) 443-2473

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Jeff Leone Air Temp Mechanical (860) 953-8888

Bryan Mackenzie R & B Refrigeration (203) 453-6831

Steve Szypulski The Star Supply Co. (203) 772-2240

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Connecticut Heating & Cooling Contractors Association

2842 Main Street #259, Glastonbury, CT 06033 • Phone (860) 533-1163 • Fax (860) 533-1165 www.chcca.net

MEMBERS OF: CBIA - NFPA - ICC

JENNIFER JENNINGS **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** SUPPORTING HB-6265, AN ACT CONCERNING ADVERTISING BY NONLICENSED TRADESPERSONS **BEFORE THE GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE FEBRUARY 24, 2011**

TESTIMONY OF

The Connecticut Heating & Cooling Contractors Association (CHCC) submits the following comments supporting HB-6265, An Act Concerning Advertising by Nonlicensed Tradespersons:

CHCC supports this bill. This bill closes a gap in the current law by clarifying that it is a violation of the state's occupational licensing laws to hold yourself out in advertising as a licensed contractor if you are not properly licensed. A quick scan of the yellow pages of the phone book or a weekly newspaper turns up individuals or companies advertising to perform various trade work but who are not in fact licensed to perform that particular work. Some list home improvement contractor registration numbers but are not licensed to perform the type of work advertised in the paper or yellow pages. The average consumer generally does not know that a home improvement contractor is not authorized to perform heating, piping and cooling work without the proper license.

We therefore support HB-6265 to tighten up the occupational licensing laws and ensure that consumers are protected from individuals who hold themselves out to do work for which they are not licensed.

CHCC thanks the Committee for its consideration of our comments and urges passage.

CHCC is a trade association whose objectives are to strengthen and further trade relations, attract, educate and train necessary manpower, represent members at all levels of government and review and establish quality standards and procedures. The association represents over 125 Heating & Cooling Companies in Connecticut.